

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: hspoehr@papaolalokahi.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2145 on 2/29/2012 9:15:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 8:58:23 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/29/2012 9:15:00 AM SB2145

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Hardy Spoehr
Organization: Papa Ola Lokahi
E-mail: hspoehr@papaolalokahi.org
Submitted on: 2/29/2012

Comments:
Aloha. Papa Ola lokahi strongly supports this measure. mahalo.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: babyjean@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2145 on 2/29/2012 9:15:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 4:59:13 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/29/2012 9:15:00 AM SB2145

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ronnie Perry
Organization: Individual
E-mail: babyjean@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2012

Comments:

I strongly support this measure. we need to restore health care and mental health programs. This program will save money and prevent pain and suffering. Please pass this.

From: [Kooki Ambrosia](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2145- strong support for restoring eligibility to mental health programs
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 6:30:43 PM

Dear Chair Ige and WAM committee members:

I support this measure that will restore funding for mental health. It will save money in the long run as being hospitalized or put in jail or being thrown out to fend for yourself with no help has huge financial and social costs. We need to stop being penny wise and pound foolish and restore our social services.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Ronnie Perry
babyjean@hotmail.com

From: [Sylvia Ching](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony regarding SB 2145 SD1
Date: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 3:30:59 AM

I support the passage of SB2145 SD1. Restoring the eligibility criteria by AMHD to receive mental health services to pre cutback levels is absolutely vital in maintaining stability for all people who are diagnosed with a severe and persistent mental illness. The need for services should be the primary consideration for receiving services from AMHD, and not the type of insurance one has or does not have. From a fiscal savings standpoint, adequate treatment of this vulnerable population will yield a cost savings in less money spent in the police and judicial systems as well as more expensive psychiatric hospitalizations. This version allows AMHD to bill recipients' insurance companies so a funding mechanism is provided for. Passage of this bill will not only save the State and County governments money in these very tight budgetary times but will also prevent unnecessary suffering for those who suffer from mental and emotional disorders.

From: [Alika Ge](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Fw:
Date: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 12:31:06 PM

Alika Genovia
Peer Mentor - West Hawaii
Hawaii County Re-entry Program for Co-occurring Disorders
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--- On **Wed, 2/29/12, Alika Ge <hipeermentor@yahoo.com>** wrote:

From: Alika Ge <hipeermentor@yahoo.com>
Subject:
To: sendige@capitol.hawaii.gov
Cc: hipeermentor@yahoo.com
Date: Wednesday, February 29, 2012, 7:07 PM

Dear Senator Ige

I would like to share my testimony on the SB2145 bill. I have been diagnosed with SMI Serious Mental Illness. I was up until recently, under AMHD and on SSDI. I was given a Ticket to Work from SSA and found a part time job. However, after a few months, I was told that I would no longer be able to stay at my group home, as I had to take the insurance offered by my new job. This resulted in me losing my housing, mental health case management, psychiatrist, and I lost my support system from Clubhouse. It was as if I was being punished for trying to do what I had been taught at clubhouse, to rehabilitate myself and get back on my feet, get a job and not rely on government assistance. I was suicidal, even lately I have been very depressed, with all the new challenges that I face, now without any support for my mental health issues. I would like to be able to tell people, (those like me who are on government assistance and living with mental health issues) that it is a positive experience to overcome the obstacles associated with rehabilitation, however until this issue; that now people with mental health issues are not receiving the help that they so desperately need, because of their insurance rather than their diagnosis, is fixed, I will not lie to them and tell them that it will be better for them. Here

in Hawaii right now, they should stay on assistance until the State of Hawaii realizes that they are employing people at AMHD clubhouses to get people to return to work, only to lose everything. I have faith that you would see the flaw of the current rules on AMHD services, how it actually punishes its consumers for doing what it tries to promote psychco social rehabilitaion and dicriminates against people beacuse of their insurance rather than their mental health diagnosis.

Mahalo

Alika Genovaia
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